



THE FAS LETTER

AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE SERVICE

March-April 1970

OGREN AND BEUKENKAMP RECEIVE U.S. AWARDS

There are times when the arrival of the Embassy mail pouch makes "mail call" a more special occasion than usual by bringing pleasant surprises to the Attache's desk—and such was the case recently at two European posts.

Attache Ken Ogren of the Paris OECD office is accustomed to receiving invitations in his daily mail—but the one which came his way from the University of Minnesota was not the usual kind. Ken was invited to be present at the annual meeting of the Alumni Association of the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics on April 18 to receive the Outstanding Achievement Award of the University which is reserved for former students who have attained eminence and distinction. Presentation of this award was recommended unanimously by the Faculty Committee on Honors and the Administrative Committee of the Senate, and approved by the Regents of the University.

Following the award ceremony, Ken will stop briefly in Washington for consultation before returning to Paris on April 27.

The second "surprise package" going to Europe was a wall plaque which found its way to Attache R. L. Beukenkamp's office in Rome. This citation came from the Midwest State Departments of Agriculture in recognition of Berk's leadership and guidance in forming the Mid-America International Trade Council.



LOOPER REPLACES OLSON AS INFORMATION DIRECTOR

J. Donald (Don) Looper is the new Director of the Foreign Market Information Division, replacing retiree Ken Olson. He comes from ASCS, where he was assistant to the administrator.

The appointment is a homecoming for Don, an Oklahoma native, who started his USDA career in OFAR some 20 years ago. Since then he has worked in a number of Department programs as a top-level special writer and administrative assistant, in addition to a period as an account executive with a midwest advertising agency. He has also been active in the Toastmasters Club program in the D.C. area.



Wayne W. Sharp

WAYNE SHARP ASSIGNED TO GUATEMALA CITY

Wayne W. Sharp, agricultural economist in the Livestock and Meat Products Division, FAS/W, will be the new agricultural attache in Guatemala, replacing Harry Bryan who is returning to the States for home leave and reassignment. Wayne, accompanied by his wife Linda and three-year-old daughter Catherine, is scheduled to arrive in Guatemala City around April 9.

Reared on a ranch near San Angelo, Texas, Wayne has B.S. and M.S. degrees in agricultural economics from Texas A. & M. He was a teaching assistant and graduate research assistant at this college from 1962-64 and in 1964-65 was chosen as International Farm Youth Exchange delegate from Texas to go to Argentina for six months.

From 1965-68, Wayne was a graduate research assistant in agricultural economics at Michigan State University. He received his Ph.D. in economics from this school in 1968, after which he joined FAS.

(Continued on page 2)



A COMPANY OF COOKS IN TAIWAN . . . This busy scene took place in the home of the ag attache in Taiwan, when Mrs. Millie Pettipaw, wife of Attache Norman Pettipaw, was hostess at a food demonstration and luncheon for U.S. Embassy wives. The group watched two instructors from the Taiwan Wheat Products Promotion Council demonstrate various Chinese flour food recipes (including traditional steam breads) and then did some food preparation of their own under the watchful eye of these experts. The luncheon menu featured Sun Lih instant noodles and the other items prepared by the ladies during their practice session.

SEMINAR ACTIVITIES IN MILAN

Attache Berk Beukenkamp of Rome reports that the recent livestock seminars at the Milan Trade Center used animation, demonstrations, attractive pictorial backdrops, and the spoken word to present a lively and eye-appealing show to a very receptive audience. Living animation was provided by live U.S.A. bred hogs and lambs exhibited just a few yards from the conference room.

The Milan event was organized in cooperation with the American Soybean Institute, the National Renderers Association, the Institute of American Poultry Industries, and the U.S. Feed Grains Council.

John Glew is agricultural officer at the Milan Trade Center, which is shared by USDA and the Department of Commerce.



BRIDE IN DUBLIN

Best wishes go to Sheila Parsons, agricultural clerk in Attache Gene Ransom's Office in Dublin, who is now Mrs. Robert T. Freeman.

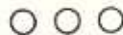
Sheila has returned to her FAS desk in the Dublin Embassy following a late February honeymoon holiday.

WAYNE SHARP ASSIGNMENT

(Continued from page 1)

Wayne represented Texas at the First World IFYE Alumni Conference in Bern, Switzerland in 1965, and that same year received the American Farm Economic Association Award for Meritorious Research on his Master's thesis.

Linda Sharp has a B.S. degree (with honors) in dietetics from Washington State (1962). She completed her dietetic internship in Cleveland, Ohio and received the Meade-Johnson Award as one of ten outstanding dietetic interns in the U.S. in 1963. She earned her M.S. in institutional administration in 1967 at Michigan State, where she was also a graduate teaching assistant.



As this issue goes to press, former Assistant Attache Dave Riggs of The Hague (now with the Marketing Branch of the Fats and Oils Division) has entered a three-way race to fill a seat on the City Council of Bowie, Maryland. Next issue of the LETTER will report on whether it was win, place, or show for Dave.

ALMOST HALF A CENTURY OF AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

Retirement on April 10 marks 46 years of agricultural service for FAS's Assistant Administrator for Management W. A. Minor—a record that is hard to top! During this time, he has actively and effectively participated in USDA programs at the grass roots, national, and international levels. Seventeen of these years have been with FAS, during which time Art has become a well known and popular member of the FAS "family" at home and abroad.

A product of Stone Mountain, Georgia, Mr. Minor earned a B.S. degree in agriculture from the University of Georgia. He began his long agricultural career as a county agent, and for ten years was an extension economist at his alma mater. In addition to his service in the University's farm management research and extension work, he was a leader in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration programs in Georgia for two years.

In 1935 Mr. Minor joined USDA's AAA staff in Washington, remaining at this post until 1941. He was Assistant to the Administrator during the last two years of his stay. From 1941-45 he served as president of Production Credit Corporation in Columbia, South Carolina, covering Florida, Georgia, and North and South Carolina.

Art became an Assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture in 1945, and continued in this capacity until 1953. He served Secretaries Wickard, Anderson, and Brannan, as well as Under Secretary True Morse. He joined FAS in 1953 as Assistant Administrator for Management. In this assignment, he has been responsible for the development and execution of effective administrative management policies and practices in carrying out the market development, trade promotion, and other service programs of the agency. This task he has carried out energetically and capably. The Management staff won the Department's Superior Service Award in 1958.

As the "Dean of Management" of FAS, Art will be missed not only for his devotion to FAS but for his genial and unassuming presence as well. The FAS crew joins in wishing him the happiest kind of retirement—and looking into our crystal ball, it's easy to see him employing his well-known horticultural skill in the Minor rose garden . . . at the same time following with lively interest the activities of the gang he left behind!



LET'S OPEN THAT BOX! . . . When friends of retiring FAS Information Director Kenneth Olson assembled in February to wish him well in his new career as PR consultant for Great Plains Wheat, FAS Administrator Ray Ioanes did the speech-making honors in behalf of the FAS crew, then turned over to Ken the mysterious looking package seen here. That Ray carried out this assignment with good humor and enthusiasm is evident. Under all those flowers and ribbons, Ken found dark room equipment for use in continuing his hobby of photography. The informal reception at the South Building included some comments by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Clarence Palmby on Ken's high-caliber performance as a USDA info man.



MIGHTY FINE, RUSS! . . . The U.S. poultry industry gave special recognition to Russ Strobel, director of the FAS/W Dairy and Poultry Division, at the recent annual fact-finding conference of the Institute of American Poultry Industries in Kansas City, Missouri. IAPI President Harold Williams is seen here presenting Russ with an impressive engraved plaque "in recognition of diligent and dedicated service to the U.S. poultry industry in helping to build and maintain international markets." Russ has the added distinction of being the first Government employee to be honored by IAPI in this manner while still in Government service and before retirement.



Queen Johnson is busy with trade promotion work at "home base" these days, after assisting with field operation details as secretary to Attache George Parks in Bonn. Queen returned from leave to go into the office of International Trade Fairs Director J. K. McClarren.





WELCOME TO THE BALKANS! ... When Cathryn Muirhead, 1969 Maid of Cotton, arrived at the Belgrade Airport to participate in the 1969 International Textile Fair, Attache Frank Ehman was on hand to welcome her, along with Galen Yates (far right) and Marion (Maggie) Small of the FAS/W Trade Fair Division. Galen served as U.S. manager of the U.S. portion of the Fair, while Maggie (third from left) was assistant manager.

DR. A. REX JOHNSON DIES

Friends of Dr. A. Rex Johnson, who was assistant director of OFAR from 1944-50, were saddened to receive news of his death due to pneumonia on February 10 at his home in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Johnsons have lived in Las Vegas for several years.

Upon leaving USDA service in 1950, Dr. Johnson taught for a number of years at George Washington University. He retired in 1963. He continued his teaching activities at the University of Nevada (Southern Branch) until his death.

Mrs. Johnson is living at 2013 Bracken Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89014.



AT HOME IN NEW ENGLAND

If you're interested in antiques and happen to be in the vicinity of Brewster, Massachusetts, drop in at the shop called "Marshlands." Presiding over this lovely home in its serene New England setting are retired Attache and Mrs. Scotty Kevorkian.

The Kevorkians have developed an ideal formula for blending business and pleasure—make an absorbing hobby pay dividends by pursuing it in home surroundings. When Management Secretary Marian Smith's daughter Mary Kean (Smith) Smith and her family vacationed at Cape Cod last year, they visited Scotty and Helen, returning to Washington with happy memories ... and an enthusiastic account of the Kevorkian antique shop with its stock of treasures gleaned by Helen on her antiquing forays through the countryside.

Scotty, who served as ag attache in Costa Rica from 1965-67, retired with more than 30 years experience in Latin American affairs and tropical agriculture. His career included assignments in Ecuador, Puerto Rico, Nicaragua, and Cuba. He joined FAS in its technical assistance program in 1941.

APO mail service was opened to San Jose, Costa Rica in late February. Mail should be addressed: American Embassy, APO New York 09883.



BAKERY SCHOOL AT BANGALORE ... The bakery school which has been established at Bangalore, Mysore State, India by Wheat Associates in cooperation with the University of Agricultural Science, decided recently to have a short course for home bakers in addition to its regular 20-week course for commercial operators. The first graduating class had about 120 members, including the wife of the Chief Secretary and other leading homemakers. Speakers addressing the group were Governor Dharma Vira, Minister for Agriculture Rachaiah, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare Mrs. Bassawarajewari, University Vice Chancellor Naik, and Attache Jim Boulware. Here we have Jim at the rostrum, emphasizing the need for appropriate wheats to make good flour for baking.

YUSUF DURUSOY COMES TO U.S. WITH TURKISH LIVESTOCK TEAM

Yusuf Durusoy, agricultural analyst in Attache Harry Varney's headquarters in Ankara, has been traveling in the U.S. as interpreter for a three-man team of Turkish Government officials. The group arrived in Washington on March 4.

During their two-week trip, the team visited a number of Holstein-Friesian herds and observed cattle operations in various parts of the country. The Turkish Government plans to import 400-500 head of Holstein-Friesian breeding cattle in the future, as part of their livestock expansion program. This visit enabled the visitors to acquaint themselves with U.S. Holstein-Friesian breeding, management, and feeding practices.

The group's itinerary included the national headquarters of the Holstein-Friesian Association in Brattleboro, Vermont, followed by visits to herds in the states of Washington, California, Arizona, Wisconsin, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. They returned to Washington on March 17 en route home.

Team members were Dr. Mustafa Durusoy, General Director, Veterinary Service, Ministry of Agriculture; Mr. Hasan Ertan, Veterinary Director, Istanbul Area; and Mr. Osman Ozbek, President, Dairy Association, Istanbul Area.



A BUSY EDITOR TAKES A WELL EARNED BREAK

Alice Fray Nelson, editor of *Foreign Agriculture* magazine and chief of the FAS Publications Branch, was feted on March 16 by friends and co-workers as she left FAS/W to enjoy the novelty of being a lady of leisure.

A native of Colorado, Alice has had a long career in Government service. Following undergraduate studies at the University of Nebraska, she joined USDA in 1931 and continued her studies at George Washington University.

She became head of the Publications Branch in 1950, and has edited *Foreign Agriculture* for 21 years. Today, this publication is the leading weekly source of foreign agricultural production and trade in the U.S. and has received numerous honors under Alice's editorship.

Alice has racked up a hard-to-match array of service awards during her USDA career, including recognition on several occasions for superior and sustained superior service, along with outstanding performance citations from 1959-69. She has been listed in *Who's Who of American Women* since 1965, and in the *Dictionary of International Biography* (published in London) since 1968. The frequent FAS unit awards bestowed upon her branch are eloquent testimony to the quality of her leadership.

Her husband, Elton Nelson, retired from Commerce the same week. The Nelsons look forward to a leisurely summer in Estes Park, Colorado, with a round-the-world holiday at a later date.



DECEMBER BRIDE . . . The lovely bride is Edna Pega of Buenos Aires, who exchanged vows with Eduardo Accari on December 16, 1969 in the San Martin de Tours Church. Edna has been on the FAS staff in Buenos Aires for 12 years and over that time has made friends not only with the Attache personnel stationed at the post, but with many FAS travelers as well. May there be many happy years ahead for the newlyweds!

JOHN A. HOPKINS HAS FATAL HEART ATTACK

News of the sudden death in early January of former Ag Attache John A. Hopkins will bring back many memories for those who knew and worked with him in the days of OFAR. A member of the faculty of Iowa State College for almost 25 years (1921-44), Mr. Hopkins entered Government service as an agricultural economist in 1944 and remained in agricultural work until his retirement in 1961. He was one of the "pioneers" in the FAS field service, with overseas assignments in Bogota, Mexico City, Rio de Janeiro, and London.

He is survived by his wife, Marguerite, who lives at 4000 Cathedral Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016.

ROAMING AROUND



Sharon Gail Smith

Sharon Gail Smith, who left for Buenos Aires in mid-March, is a newcomer to the FAS field staff. Sharon will be secretary in the office of Attache Joe Dodson. A native of Maryland, her USDA experience includes five years with Consumer and Marketing Service and IAD.

Attache Gene Olson of Ottawa made a flying visit to FAS/W for the Outlook Conference in February.

Assistant Attache Ed Bauer is settling in at Attache Steve Washenko's shop in Hong Kong, and reports that he is thoroughly enjoying his new living quarters. Ed's "home away from home" is an apartment which affords what he describes as "a magnificent view of Hong Kong's harbor."

Former Assistant Attache Dave Riggs of The Hague was among the students who recently completed the FAS language course in beginning French. This isn't Dave's first plunge into the intricacies of a foreign tongue, however—he previously attained a 2+ in speaking and reading the Dutch language.

Norm Kallemeyn is in the midst of a Spanish language training course at Foreign Service Institute before departing for Costa Rica. He'll replace Attache Byron Montgomery, who is scheduled to return to FAS/W in late summer for home leave and reassignment.

Assistant Attache Gordon Nicks left Tokyo March 28 for home leave and return to post. Gordon will be in Washington for consultation in late April, following a South Dakota holiday.

Attache Ford Milam is back in Lisbon after a busy home leave. He spent the last week in February on consultation in FAS/W.

Assistant Attache James Starkey III reported for duty in Mexico City the early part of March.

Attache Roger Euler was in FAS/W the first week in March before heading back to Moscow.

Attache Frank Ehman resumed his duties in Belgrade in late February. Assistant Attache Koy Neeley, who was on TDY in the Yugoslav capital during Frank's home leave absence, has returned to The Hague. Frank spent a couple of days in mid-March at the Verona Fair, to meet exhibitors and others who will be involved in the Novi Sad Fair next year.

Local secretary Rosa Salazar was recently promoted. Rosa works in the shop of Attache Bill Bowser in Quito.

Cecilia Vargas de Grau has resigned from her clerk-steno post in San Jose.

Official field travel occupied Attache R. L. Beukenkamp of Rome during most of the month of March. From March 2-20 he was in Ancona, Treviso, the area in and around Milan, and at the Verona Trade Fair.

Attache and Mrs. Gene Ransom left Dublin in mid-March for a couple of weeks in Spain.



ARTS AND CRAFTS IN LONDON TOWN ... A successful and popular project of the Embassy Wives' Association in London is the American Embassy Annual Arts and Crafts Show, which features entries from all Embassy employees and their families. Entries in the third annual show held in February revealed a variety of talent, including painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, ceramics, and all types of needlecraft. Mrs. Walter Annenberg, wife of the Ambassador, attended the formal opening. The agricultural office had two exhibitors in the show—Selina Hume, wife of Attache Dave Hume, who exhibited one of her oil paintings, and Kathleen Alder, local assistant, whose hand-knitted sweater was an attractive item in the needlework section. When this picture was taken, Selina (above left) and Sigrid Santiano, wife of Tony Santiano of the Embassy's Visa Section, were in the midst of helping hang exhibit entries. The oil painting is Selina's.

James Hickman, assistant attache in Ankara, returns to the U.S. in May for home leave and consultation, followed by orientation and French language training. He will report sometime in November to Monrovia, where he will replace Attache **Gerry Shelden**. Gerry will return to FAS/W for home leave and reassignment.

Secretary **Jeanette Kokay** left Buenos Aires in late March. Following annual leave, Jeanette will report to FAS/W for assignment.

Ed Cissel of the Cotton Division has recently transferred to the Attache Service and will be going to the field later on this year.

Isabel Ribeiro, local secretary in Attache **Jack McDonald's** office in Rio de Janeiro, has received a meritorious step increase.

Attache **Dale Vining** of Kuala Lumpur is on the May home leave calendar. The Vinings will be home in time to celebrate two happy family occasions—the college graduation of son Terry in Ogden, Utah and the wedding of son Pat.

Attache and Mrs. **Jim Lankford** of Stockholm chose the lovely garden spot of Madeira for a brief annual leave which began March 30 and ended April 6.

Another pair of early spring vacationers were Attache and Mrs. **Brice Meeker** of The Hague. The Meekers were on leave March 25-April 3.

Attache **Al Gilbert** of Lagos was on official travel in Northern Nigeria the first two weeks of March.



BANGKOK QUINTET ... This happy-looking crew is the agricultural staff of the Bangkok office. From left to right: Sommai Panyathorn, ag specialist; Mrs. Mary Jane Stewart, secretary; Attache Bill von Seggern; Mrs. Sunantha Pkunpanya, clerk; and Bhornchai Kunalai, marketing specialist.

At Bad Godesberg, TDY secretary Lucille Sargent is enjoying the scenic beauty of the Rhine during her off-duty time. She is looking forward to a short trip in June into Bavaria, where she will witness the famous Passion Play of Oberammergau.



The first week in March was annual leave time for Attache Harold L. Koeller.

WHEN NO NEWS IS *BAD* NEWS

There's a shopworn expression that proclaims, "No news is good news" ... but this is definitely not the case where the FAS LETTER is concerned! No field news means that readers receive a less interesting publication—and no field pictures means that a dull and unattractive layout goes to the printer. The news notes and photographs that you contribute enable us to produce a lively and well-balanced publication. You are our "on-the-spot reporters!" That's why we urge you to make sure that *your* post is represented on these pages!

Now ... what's news today in your part of the world? The next issue is just around the corner!

Larabi Choukrallah, agricultural assistant in the office of Attache Dudley Williams of Morocco, has been occupied during his leisure time as an enrollee in the English course sponsored by USIS at our Rabat Embassy.



Attache Waldo Rowan of Santiago has been on annual leave.

THE FAS LETTER



To U.S. Agricultural Attache Posts

An internal letter published monthly by the

**Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250**

as a means of helping to keep U.S. agricultural attaches and officers and their staffs informed of developments relating to their overseas assignments.

Send contributions to:
Patty Shannon, Editor,
Rm. 5916-South, FAS/W.
(Ext. 3100)